

new mexico architecture

may-june 1970

50¢

AMERICAN INSTITUTE
OF
ARCHITECTS

JUN 1 1970

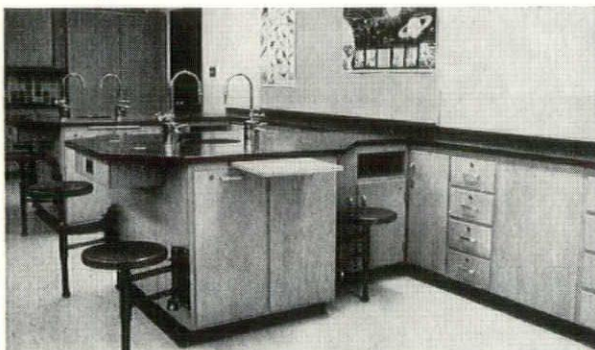
LIBRARY

Mountain Bell

¡El Alvarado Está Muerto!

See Page 16

FROM CONCEPT TO COMPLETION



Exclusive distributors for TAYLOR

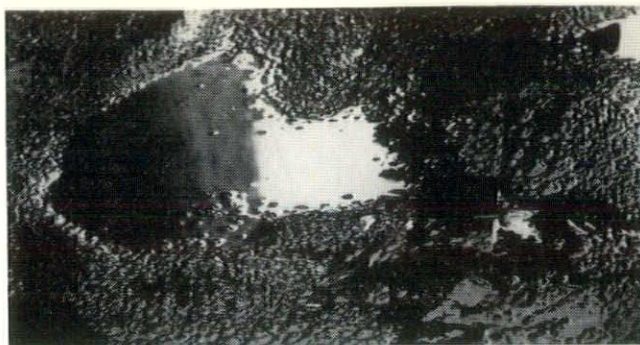
Consultation Planning Design Layout

Criteria, skill, artistry and experience are fused to produce laboratory furniture meeting the most exacting requirements of contemporary science educators and architects. Units immediately available and within the reach of any school or institutional budget.

Architects use our design consultation services for:
Science Labs / Offices / Artrooms / Dormitories /
Libraries / Auditorium Seating / Home Economics
Labs / Gymnasiums

**UNIVERSITY BOOK STORE
ALLIED SUPPLY CO.**

2122 Central, SE
Phone 243-1776
Albuquerque, N. M.



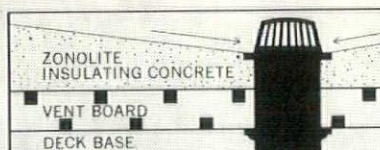
Ponding causes a whole deluge of problems. Zonolite roof deck systems turn them off.

Zonolite® has roof decks for everything. For the slope-to-drains. For hurricanes. For protection against fire. And for insulation.

Roof deck systems certified by Zonolite. Available everywhere in the U. S. and Canada. Installed by approved applicators each and every month of the year.

Just talk to your local Zonolite representative. He'll be pleased to consult with you and come up with a recommendation that will satisfy all your design requirements.

Want to correct a roof deck problem. Or better yet, prevent one in the first place? Say the word!



ZONOLITE

Southwest Vermiculite Co.
5119 Edith Blvd. N.E.
Albuquerque, New Mexico 87107



nma

vol. 12 • nos. 5 and 6 • may - june 1970 • new mexico architecture

Albuquerque Chapter, AIA, Honor Awards	8
Wilson Park Swimming Pool—Public Service Co. of New Mexico— School of Business and Administrative Services—Chemistry Building Addition—Los Alamos Main Exchange Complex	

The Alvarado Hotel 1902-1970	16
Final Chapter of the Alvarado Affair	

Index to Advertisers	22
----------------------	----

(Cover—Mountain Bell—Los Alamos, N. M.—Photographer—Gordon Ferguson)

— Official Publication of the New Mexico Society of Architects, A. I. A. —

Society Officers

President—Joe Boehning
Vice President—Earl P. Wood
Secretary-Treasurer—Charles E. Nolan, Jr.
Director—Beryl Durham
Director—Duane Dorsey
Director—Terence Ross
Director—Wilbur Harris
Director—Van Dorn Hooker
Director—George Pearl
Director—John P. Conron

Commission for NMA

John P. Conron—Editor
Bainbridge Bunting—Editorial Consultant
Robert G. Mallory—Advertising
Mrs. Mildred Brittelle—Financial
Secretary, Circulation
John W. McHugh
Robert B. Riley
James M. Murray, III

ALWAYS SPECIFY

STRESSCRETE SLABS

PERFECT FOR . . .

- APARTMENT
 - SCHOOL
 - MOTEL
- CONSTRUCTION**

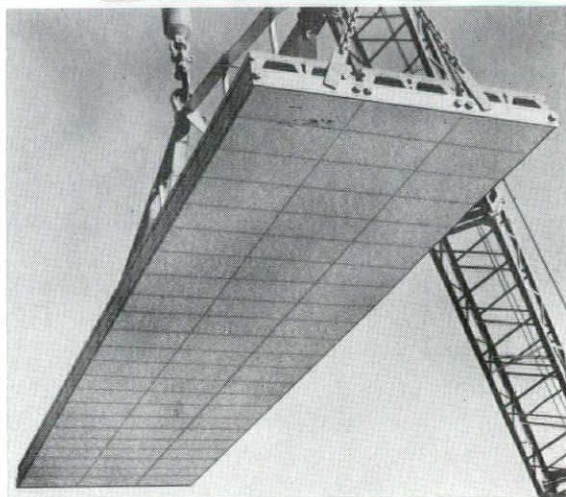
Fire-safe, Low-Maintenance Roofs
and Floors by . . .

THE



BUILDING PRODUCTS CO.

P. O. BOX 9977 • EL PASO, TEXAS • PHONE 772-1451



SINCE 1880

ROBCO



What Building Material Is:

- FADE PROOF (EVEN PROLONGED EXPOSURE TO DIRECT SUNLIGHT WILL NOT FADE IT)?
- LOAD BEARING?
- WILL NEVER NEED REFINISHING?
- HARDER THAN ORDINARY STEEL?
- IMPERVIOUS TO PEOPLE — ABUSE? (EVEN INK WON'T STAIN IT)
- EXTREMELY CHEMICAL RESISTANT?
- ABSOLUTELY FIRE RESISTANT?
 - NO FUEL CONTRIBUTION
 - NO FLAME SPREAD
 - NO SMOKE
 - NO TOXIC FUMES

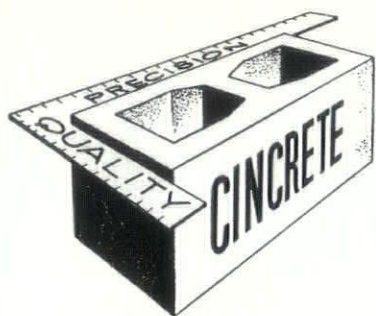
ROBCO Structural Glazed Tile!

Call Your New Mexico Robco Dealer:

CREST TILE CO.

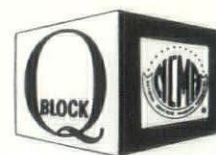
505 - 265-7992 — 4008 Cooper N.E. Albuquerque, N.M. 87108

OR THE **ROBINSON** BRICK AND TILE COMPANY Denver, 303 - 744-3371



serving New Mexico
and the El Paso area
with

Quality Concrete Masonry Products and many allied building materials



Modernfold Wood and Plastic Folding Doors
Hollow Metal Doors and Frames
Steel and Formica Toilet Partitions
Commercial Toilet Accessories
Residential and Commercial Steel and Aluminum Windows
Reinforcing and Fabricated Steel
Commercial Hardware
Moderncote Vinyl Wall Covering

Builders Block & Stone Co., Inc.

P. O. Box 1633
Roswell, N. M. 88201
505 622-1321

Builders Block & Supply Co., Inc.

P. O. Drawer FF
Las Cruces, N. M. 88001
505 524-3633

Builders Block & Stone Co., Inc.

P. O. Box 10284
Albuquerque, N. M. 87114
505 344-0851

Builders Block & Supply Co., Inc.

Telephone
El Paso
915 532-9695

Members: New Mexico Concrete Masonry Association, National Concrete Masonry Association

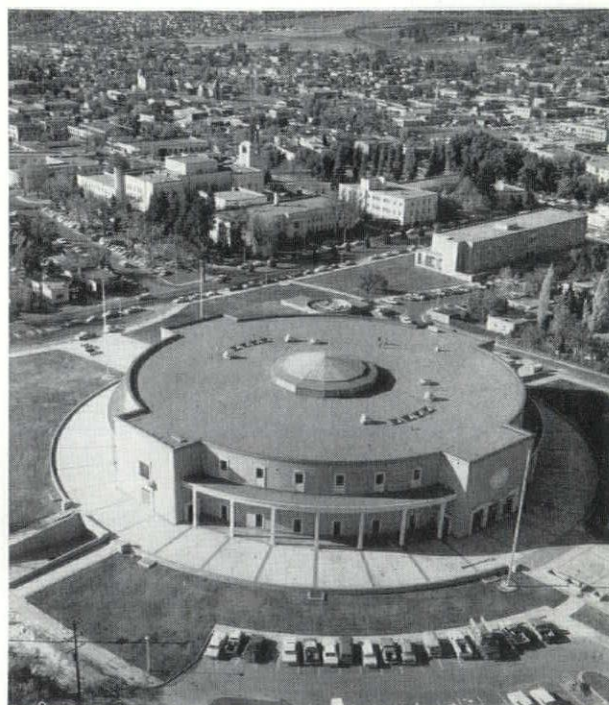
Mr. Architect . . .

let us show you why a large percent
of Building owners in New Mexico
rely upon us for dependable Vertical
Transportation.

Hunter-Hayes Elevator Co.
106 Buena Vista S.E.
Albuquerque, N. M. 87106

HUNTER-HAYES ELEVATOR CO.
SUBSIDIARY ■ DOVER CORP.

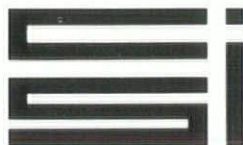
Offices Throughout the Southwest



NEW MEXICO STATE CAPITOL COMPLEX
Santa Fe, New Mexico

Geared Passenger Elevators as well as Rotary Oilraulic
Elevators installed throughout.

CONCRETE SYSTEMS, INC.

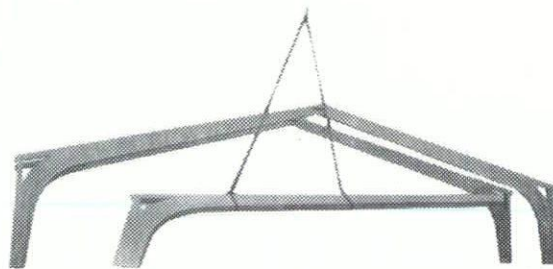


2121 Menaul, N.E.
P.O. Box 3625
Albuquerque
New Mexico 87110
Phone (505) 345-3581

Furnishing concrete forming hardware to contractors. . . .

- ★ Special Concrete Coatings
- ★ Neoprene Bearing Pads
- ★ Joint Materials

Through A C D (Associated Construction Distributors), we keep informed as to new products and techniques being used throughout the country.



WE CAN DO A QUALITY BUILDING JOB FOR YOU AT LESS COST WITH
WEYERHAEUSER LAMINATED WOOD BEAMS
WEYERHAEUSER LAMINATED WOOD ARCHES
WEYERHAEUSER LAMINATED WOOD DECKING

See us for complete Weyerhaeuser Structural Roof Systems. We can do the complete job from estimate through erection. Call for estimates or more information.



Weyerhaeuser Architectural Specialty Dealer

ALBUQUERQUE

1881

Lumber COMPANY

1970

3825 Edith, N.E.

Phone 345-2511

KINNEY BRICK COMPANY INC.

Manufacturers of:

Distributors for:

- | | |
|----------------|-----------------------|
| • Common Brick | • Summit Brick Co. |
| • Patio Brick | • Acme Brick Co. |
| • Face Brick | • Major Brick Co. |
| • Roman Brick | • Eureka Brick Co. |
| • Norman Brick | • Texas Clay Products |
| • "SCR" Brick | • • • • • |

Samples and information upon request

Visit Our Office & Showrooms at Plant
5 miles South just off of Second Street
ALBUQUERQUE, NEW MEXICO
Phone 877-4550 P.O. Box 1804, 87103

Variations on a theme :

NEW Spectra-Glaze®

**glazed masonry units
DESIGN SERIES**

(not an alternate for any other material)

Your choice in color, texture, form, scale and pattern . . .

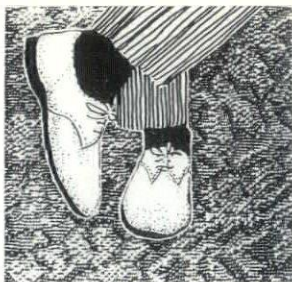
Select from a variety of scored units to reduce scale for as little as a nickel extra per block . . . Build, decorate and finish in a single operation. Thru wall, load bearing units eliminate expense of back-up wall . . . Specify Spectra-Glaze glazed concrete units in your base bid to realize their unique advantages of design flexibility combined with lower-in-the-wall costs . . . Local delivery, world-wide.

9 Cataloged in SWEET'S

(R) Reg. U. S. Pat. Off. Canada & other countries by The Burns & Russell Co.

FEATHERLITE TILE COMPANY P. O. Box 489, Erskine Rd.
LUBBOCK, TEXAS 79408 Phone 809 & PO-3-8202

TRAFFIC CARPET



BY **LEES**

PROVEN PERFORMANCE CARPETS IN WOOLS, NYLONS, ACRYLICS SPECIFICALLY DESIGNED FOR HEAVY TRAFFIC USE IN COMMERCIAL BUILDINGS, CHURCHES, OFFICES, SCHOOLS, ETC. LET WELLBORNS SHOW YOU SAMPLES FOR ULTIMATE PATTERN AND COLOR SELECTION.

Wellborn

HOME
DECORATING
CENTER

2714 4th ST. N. W.

PHONE 344-3558

ALBUQUERQUE, NEW MEXICO 87107

Roofing and Sheetmetal Contractors

FRONTIER
ROOFING CO.

Corporation of Albuquerque

711 WHEELER AVE. S.E.

TEL. 243-3788

ALBUQUERQUE, NEW MEXICO 87103

Now Available State Wide:

**CREATIVE
CONCRETE
PRODUCTS**



*in 6 shapes, 11 sizes
Also available in colors
made in New Mexico by*

**AGP ALBUQUERQUE
GRAVEL PRODUCTS
COMPANY**

OUR 34TH YEAR CLIMATE DESIGNING
PAINT FOR THE SOUTHWEST

HANLEY'S and the

COLOR
GUILD
ASSOCIATES



NEW WORLD
OF COLOR

ARCHITECTURAL PAINTS
FOR BEAUTY AND
PROTECTION

TECHNICAL COATINGS FOR
PROTECTION — FUNCTION
AND BEAUTY.

**SUNFOE
AMBASSADOR
COROBAN**

HANLEY PAINT MFG. CO., INC.

EL PASO, TEXAS
PH. 532-6921
PH. 755-3353

ALBUQUERQUE
NEW MEXICO
PH. 265-1524



The architects, owners, and contractors of five New Mexico buildings were honored at the recent awards banquet of the Albuquerque Chapter, AIA. The jury selected the winners from more than twenty-five entries submitted by members of the Albuquerque Chapter. Jurors were: John P. Conron, AIA/AID, Santa Fe; Van Deren Coke, Chairman, Dept. of Art, UNM; and William Brubaker, AIA, partner in the Perkins and Will Partnership, Chicago, Illinois.

MERIT AWARD

WILSON PARK SWIMMING POOL Albuquerque, New Mexico

ARCHITECT: Jess Holmes

OWNER: City of Albuquerque

CONTRACTOR:

Thomas, Sanders, and Stright

The Wilson Park Swimming Pool was designed as a neighborhood swimming facility. While the primary function is for instructional purposes, limited time is scheduled for recreational swimming. Bathhouse facilities are minimal, as most swimmers will come dressed for swimming. There are no diving facilities provided as the pool's depth ranges only from three to five feet.

(See *NEW MEXICO ARCHITECTURE*, January-February, 1970.)



MERIT AWARD

PUBLIC SERVICE CO. OF NEW MEXICO BUILDING

Albuquerque, New Mexico

ARCHITECT: W. C. Kruger and Associates

OWNER: Public Service Co. of New Mexico

CONTRACTOR: Brennand, Levell
—a joint venture

A simple and direct office structure designed to meet the needs of a growing public utility. The highly textured exterior walls with deep-set, sun-shaded windows form a clearly expressed structural system.



More 

MERIT AWARD

SCHOOL OF BUSINESS AND ADMINISTRATIVE SCIENCES Albuquerque, New Mexico

ARCHITECT: John Reed

OWNER: University of New Mexico

CONTRACTOR: Lembke Construction Company

This building complex houses two separate but related components of the university system. The program called for a simple solution to house these elements together—but with their own identity—thus, the two buildings, connected by a bridge at the upper level.

The School of Business and Administrative Sciences occupies the upper floor (administration and faculty offices) and the lower floor (classrooms) of the West building; and the lower floor (classrooms and library) of the East building. The In-

stitute for Social Research and Development occupies the upper floor of the East building.

This complex brought about an opportunity to develop the first building on the university campus which "expresses the structure," and at the same time relates properly to the other campus buildings which are essentially "pueblo style."

The concrete frame and prestressed T-beam system is, therefore, obvious. The exposed concrete and masonry are coated with a sprayed-on cement texture inside and out. Sun control is achieved for the upper floor glass areas by the use of sections of the T-beams mounted vertically.

The courtyards and mall-type access are desirable in the always sunny climate. The balconies provide outdoor areas for conversation, study, and informal group discussion. The building is on the periphery of the campus and future development to the north will emphasize the mall of this complex as somewhat a gateway.



CHEMISTRY BUILDING ADDITION

Albuquerque, New Mexico

ARCHITECT: Ferguson, Stevens, Mallory and Pearl

OWNER: The University of New Mexico

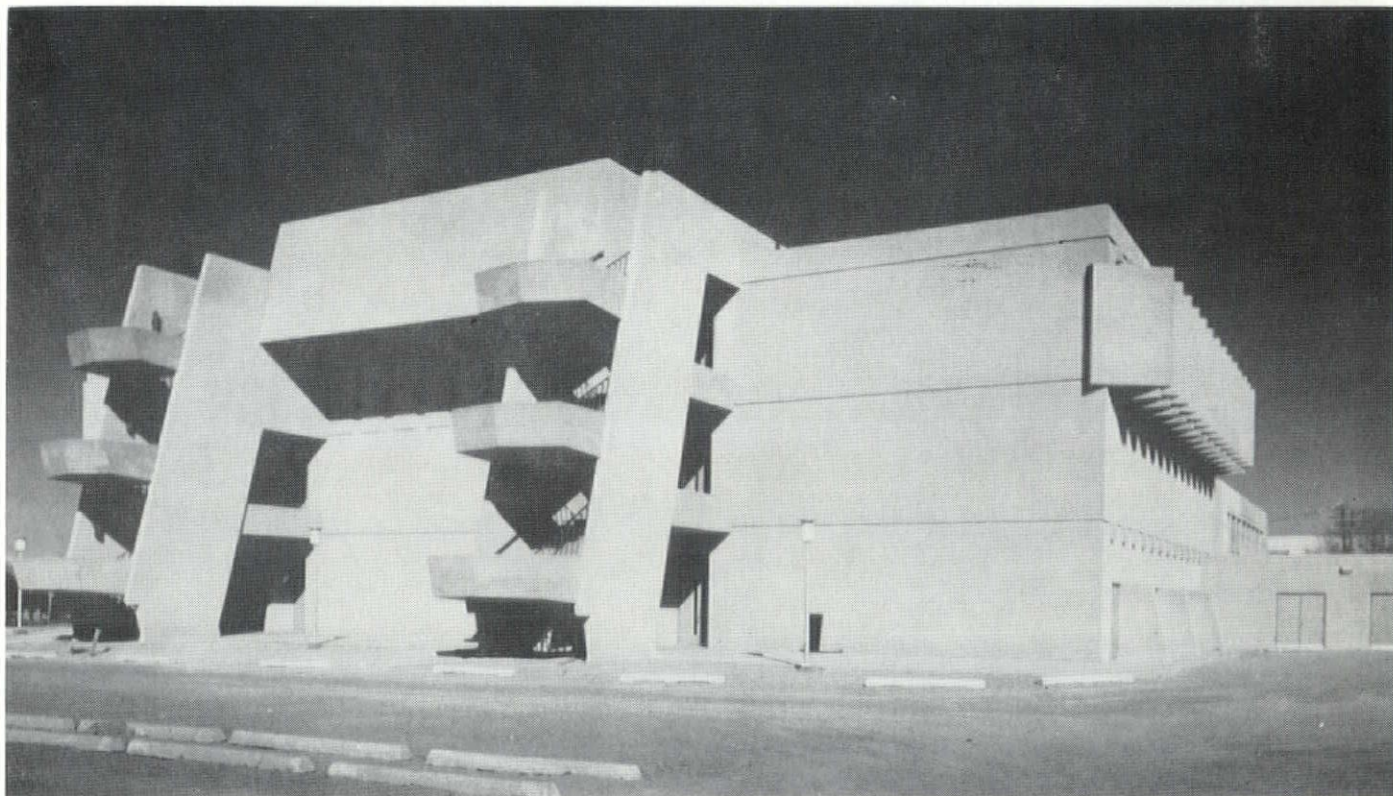
CONTRACTOR: Bradbury and Stamm

The addition to the Chemistry Building provides flexible teaching and research laboratories and offices for undergraduates, graduate students, and faculty.

The addition adjoins the existing building on the south, and has three floors above ground and one below. Undergraduate teaching laboratories are located on the ground floor with direct access to the outside. Graduate research laboratories are placed on the top floor, and permanent work and study stations for graduate assistants project beyond the main mass of the building and have individual windows with views to northeast and northwest.

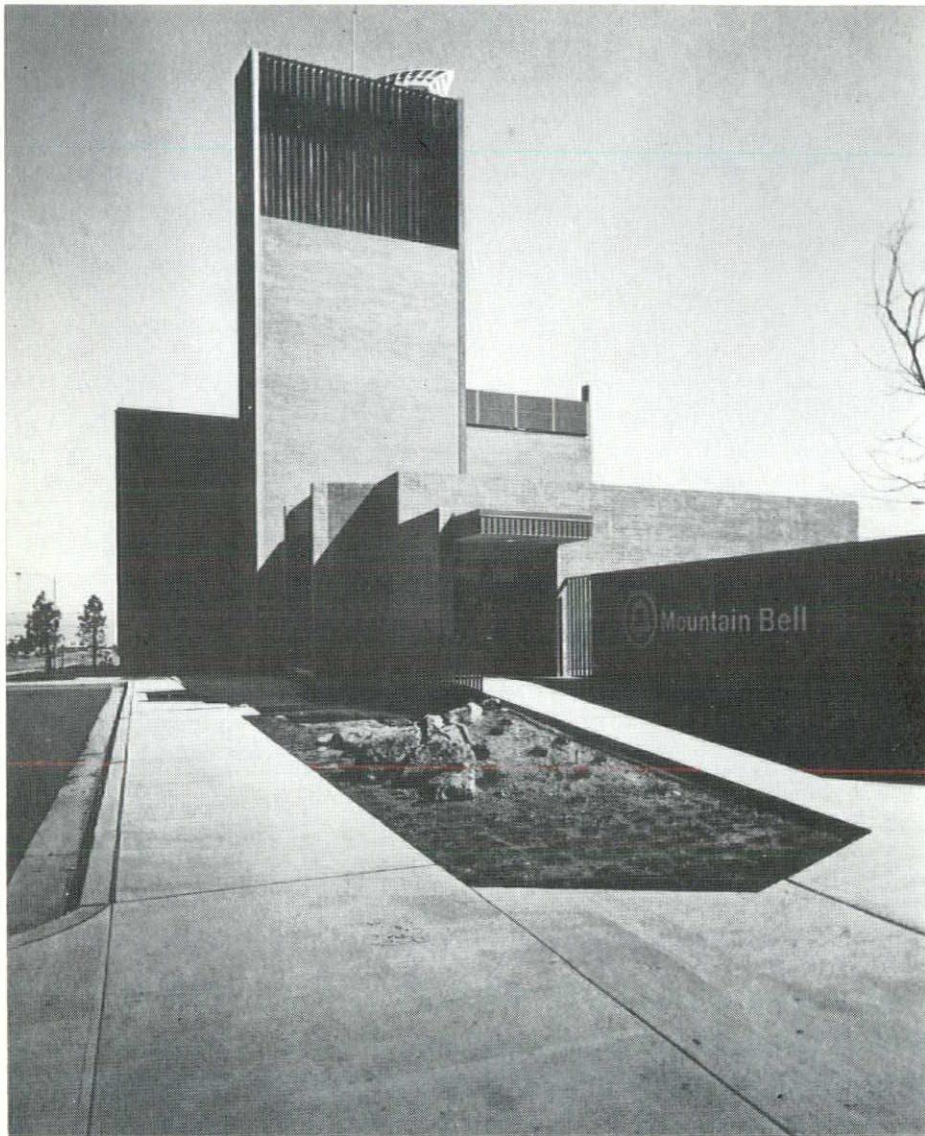
Most utilities are carried vertically and exposed through all levels. All heating and cooling equipment is placed on the roof and the equipment room is projected over the south wall of the main mass to provide fresh air supply as remote as possible from the fume hood exhausts on the north side of the building.

The stairways, which because of the connection to the existing building are used primarily for emergency exits, are projected beyond the building cube and left open. These stair towers are sloped outward toward the base to accommodate a major pedestrian walkway against the south side of the building.

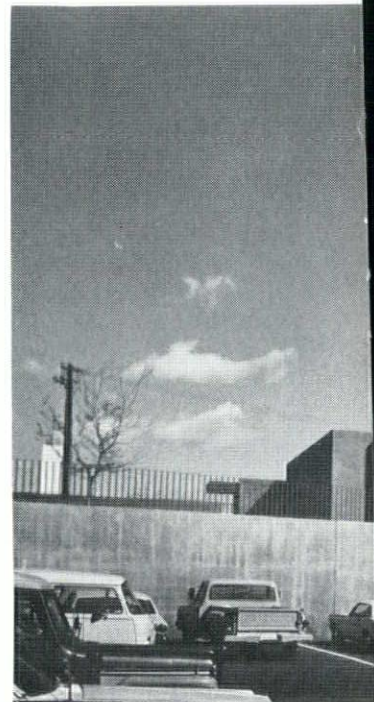


More





Mountain Bell



Photographs by:
Gordon Ferguson

LOS ALAMOS MAIN EXCHANGE COMPLEX

Los Alamos, New Mexico

ARCHITECT: Ferguson, Stevens, Mallory and Pearl

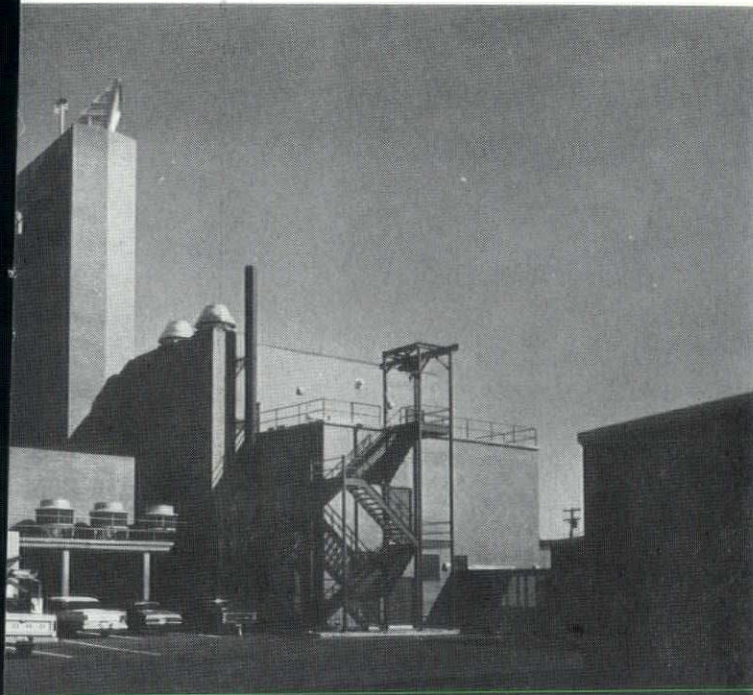
OWNER: Mountain Bell

CONTRACTOR: J. R. Brennand Construction Co., Inc.

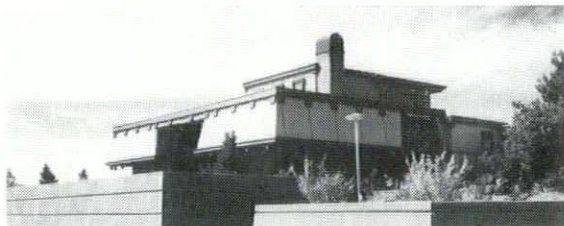
The client wished its buildings to fit into, as well as compliment, the natural and cultural setting, and asked that special care be given to landscaping. The first studies of the functional volumes required by the program had something of the hardness and precipitousness of the mesa walls surrounding the area, and something of the precision of a mathematical formula. These traits were retained and developed. The dark buff brick was chosen because of its color relationship to the native rock, and because of the crispness of line and definition of form which it afforded.

The functions of the buildings are complex, and the volumes express these functions. The predominant vertical element contains the radio signal equipment, sixty feet above the main floor line and Trinity Drive. The primary elements of signal equipment are two cornucopia antennae, one of which is to be added later. Their tops must be entirely exposed, and they must be inspected and maintained from a work platform which is accessible by stairway. The tops of the brick end walls of the tower and the Cor-Ten steel screen cover some of the galvanized steel parts of the equipment, but an effort was made not to disguise but to clarify the function of sending and receiving radio signals as well as to architecturally contain the equipment.

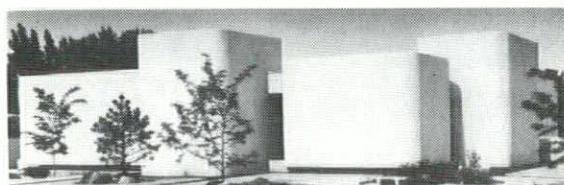
The major volume of the main building, on the east side of the tower, contains two floors of equipment to which the public has no direct relationship or access, including New Mexico's first telephone electronic switching center. As the equipment grows this portion of the building is required to expand, both horizontally and vertically. Mechanical and electrical equipment is housed in a floor below the main equipment volume which opens to the storage and maintenance yard on the south side of the main building, one full level below Trinity Drive.



NEW MEXICO IS SWITCHING TO THE MATCHLESS



medical center, Santa Fe



library, Albuquerque

ECONOMIES OF ELECTRIC HEAT

For further information on an all electric design for your next building, contact:

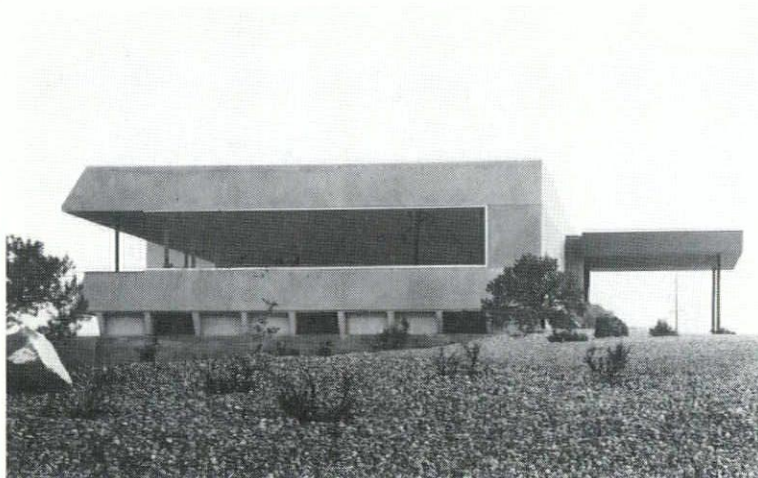
Engineering Sales Department,
Public Service Company, Albuquerque



dormitory, Las Vegas

PUBLIC SERVICE COMPANY OF NEW MEXICO

WHEN IT'S PRESTRESSED CONCRETE--- IT'S HERE TO STAY



ARCHITECT—E. GEORGE WYNN—ALBUQUERQUE

JOHN B. ROBERT—EXECUTIVE ENGINEER

CONTRACTOR —
LLOYD GIBSON CONSTR. CO., INC.

THE NEW MAINTENANCE AND OFFICE BUILDING FOR THE ALBUQUERQUE METROPOLITAN ARROYO FLOOD CONTROL AUTHORITY FEATURES FLOORS ON BOTH LEVELS OF PRESTRESSED CONCRETE 8' WIDE TWIN TEES. 2050 SQ. FEET OF PERMANENCE AND DURABILITY.

PRESTRESSED 
CONCRETE PRODUCTS, INC.

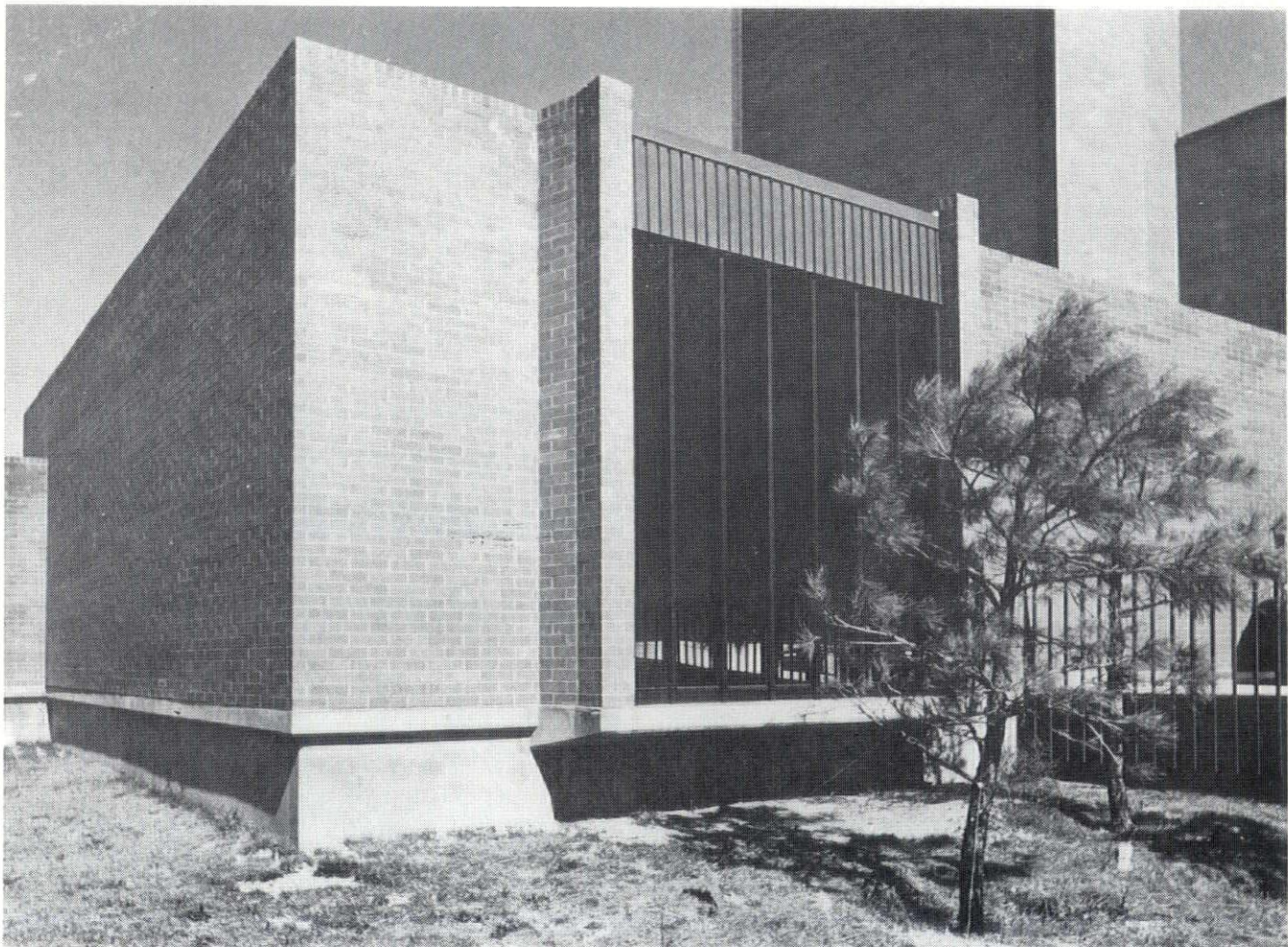
1304 Menaul Blvd. N.E., Albuquerque, N.M. 87106 (505) 345-2536

The Business Office is the only part of the building which is entered by the public. Because it is a small volume, subordinate to the tower and the equipment block, its prominence required emphasis. It is placed on the west side of the tower, with large windows in the north and south, and with the public entrance related directly to Trinity Drive and the customer parking area. The entrance is emphasized by the arrangement of walks and planting and by the long wall containing building identification.

A large vehicle storage and maintenance facility is housed in a separate structure on the south side of the main building, to which it is connected by an enclosed passage. Since this facility has no relation to the public and is visually dominated by vehicles and stored materials, it was

desirable to screen it from public view. Along with employee parking, it is located one full level below Trinity Drive. This change in elevation follows the natural fall of the land toward the canyon to the south. Walls, black iron railings, and planting complete the screening, and a visitor to the business office might be largely unaware of the complexity seen from the south.

A metal sculpture by John Tatschl covers a prominent wall in the business office opposite the main entrance. The sculpture is based upon the apparatus of modern communications technology, and is used to emphasize the kinship between the community of Los Alamos, renowned for its technological advancement, and this communication industry's most sophisticated entry into the electronic, computer-oriented world. —George Pearl



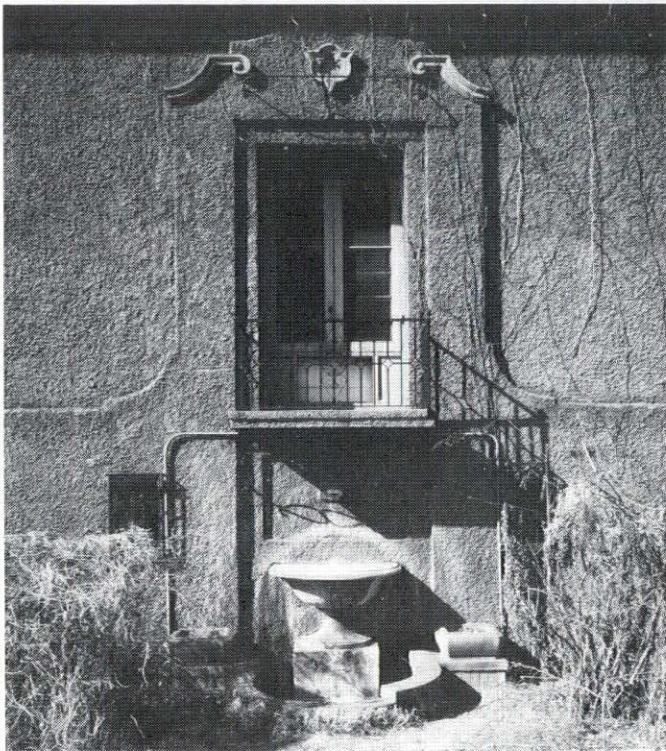
The Alvarado Hotel

For well over a half century a traveler's first impression of the American Southwest was through one of the many Atchison, Topeka and Santa Fe Railroad stations and the associated hotel and restaurant operated by the Fred Harvey organization. Here the eastern or midwestern traveler was drawn into the romantic world of the Spanish conquistador and equally unfamiliar world of the Pueblo and Navajo Indians. On alighting on the platform the visitor encountered not the usual neo-Roman or neo-Renaissance station so characteristic then of the eastern sections of the country, but instead he was faced with a low two or three story structure, almost domestic in character. He encountered no overpowering piers and columns, no dentils and wreaths, no putti or cupids, but rather he found before him a simple unpretentious stucco covered building, often enclosing small intimate gardens and court yards, with shaded loggias, textured brick and tile floors, broad fireplaces and wood beamed ceilings.

These structures seemed to fit so naturally and unostentatiously into their Southwestern environment that little conscious thought was given to them as rather remarkable examples of architecture — examples which not only personify our age, but which in many ways have made a notable contribution to the American architectural scene.

(NMA, July/August, 1962)

1) Photo: Jon Samuelson



2) National Park Service Photo By: Fred Mang, Jr.

"In a burst of rhetoric, a flow of red carpet and the flow of myriad brilliant electric lights" the Alvarado Hotel opened on May 11, 1902. Local businessmen and civic leaders expected that the building of the hotel "would attract the wealthier classes to stop in Albuquerque on their travels to the West."¹

On January 2, 1970, the Alvarado Hotel closed its doors. On February 2, 1970 the wrecking crews began the removal of doors and windows as the first step toward final demolition. By March 15, 1970 the central section of the hotel crumbled under the relentless wreckers' ball. A small but valiant group of citizens staged a last ditch fight to save the Alvarado Hotel, but as too often happens, it was too late and too little supported.

Except for the valiant few it was apparent to this observer that the citizens of Albuquerque didn't really care. The City Commission itself appeared apathetic when on February 17, 1970 it deferred "indefinitely" a proposed historic zone ordinance for the Alvarado complex and

1. "Albuquerque Journal Democrat," May 11, 1902.

1902 -- 1970

surrounding city blocks. On that date demolition had not drastically affected the central and most historically important section of the hotel structure. But the Commission was fearful that this ordinance might delay approval by the Federal government of the Urban Renewal Project, of which the blocks adjacent to the Alvarado and slated for inclusion within the proposed historic district, are a part.

Thus the Alvarado Hotel becomes a dusty memory.

Although the Alvarado Hotel and its adjacent railroad station have long been considered a vital part of any revitalization of downtown Albuquerque, no program to ensure the building's preservation was instituted. This inaction now seems incredible when one recalls the frequent "rumors"—always denied by railroad officials—that the hotel would be closed and the structure demolished. It should have been all too clear that time was running out and that the days of the building as a hotel were numbered. The structure was old and maintenance was high. The Alvarado was allowed to deteriorate. Highway motels were newer and flashier. Also the Santa Fe Railway and its hotel lessee, The Fred Harvey Company, have a long history of closing and then demolishing the chain of handsome railroad hotels and stations that once stretched across New Mexico and Arizona. After the 1968 sale of the La Fonda in Santa Fe, the Alvarado was the sole surviving active Fred Harvey hotel in New Mexico.

The final "rumor" began to circulate in early 1969. On February 3, 1969, the Albuquerque City Commission approved an application to transfer the Alvarado's liquor license to an indefinite Old Town site. Evidence was pointing toward the inevitable. Some few citizens became concerned, but the city fathers took no further action.

On May 23, 1969, the Alvarado Hotel and Railroad Station complex was placed on the New Mexico Register of Cultural Properties and was nominated for inclusion on the National Registry of Historic Places.

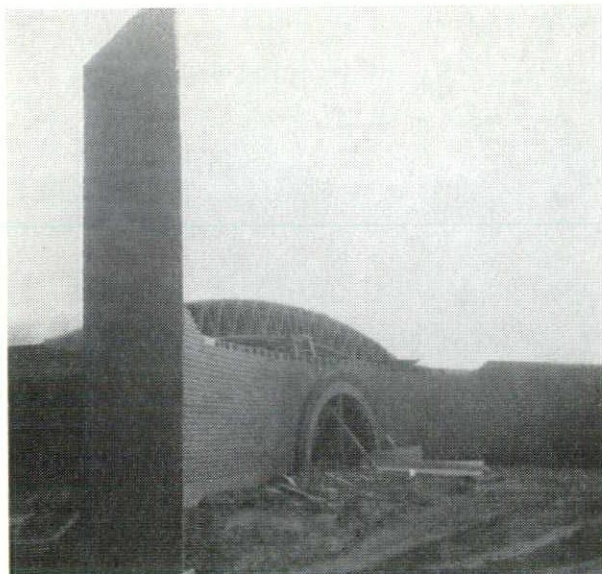
On June 3, 1969, the Alvarado management announced the closing of the coffee shop—more evidence, but no ad-



3) Photo: John P. Conron



4) Photo: John P. Conron



"We were pleased by the ease with which we were able to erect and close in the basic structure."

That statement from Allen Stamm & Associates, contractors, says a lot. They go on to say . . .

"Our workmen who had had no previous experience with these joists had them in place in a far shorter period of time than we had originally estimated. We also found their adaptability to the style of construction involved to be pleasantly surprising.

You may rest assured we will employ the use of TRUS JOISTS at the very next opportunity."

Remember — usually on-the-job workmen can erect TRUS JOISTS without heavy equipment.

That means a lot of time is saved.

That means a lot.

Grace Community Church
Santa Fe, N.M.

Contractor: Allen
Stamm & Associates

Architect: Ted Luna
& Associates



George B. McGill

7100 Constitution Avenue N.E.
Albuquerque 505/256-2058

The Warm, Wonderful World of Wood comes from

BALDRIDGE
HOME SUPPLY CENTER
GIBSON LUMBER CO.
HOME BUILDERS
SUPPLY CO.
BOSQUE FARMS
LUMBER CO.
SANDIA LUMBER CO.



APACHE LUMBER CO., INC.
GEORGIA-PACIFIC CORP.
U.S. PLYWOOD CORP.
DUKE CITY LUMBER CO.
NEW MEXICO TIMBER INC.

THESE ARE THE EXPERTS ON WOOD AND WOOD PRODUCTS TO CONTACT
FOR INFORMATION AND CONSULTATION . . . PROUD MEMBERS OF

LUMBER MERCHANTISERS ASSOCIATION

ALBUQUERQUE, NEW MEXICO

mission from the Santa Fe Railway Company. The few citizens became alarmed and sought the involvement of the city officials, as it was evident that the city and railroad would, in the final analysis, have to be the ones to negotiate the transfer of the property to the city. Despite this, no effort was made by the city to initiate discussions with railroad officials. Indeed, concerned individuals were admonished not to rock the boat. The months passed.

Then came Friday, September 19, 1969. On that day John S. Reed, President of the Santa Fe Railway announced the closing of the hotel on January 1, 1970 and plans to remove the structure.

On the following Monday, Pete V. Domenici, Chairman of the Albuquerque City Commission, announced that the city would ask the railway to hold off the demolition of the hotel until it could be determined if the structure could fit into the downtown renewal plans. The Albuquerque Goals Committee had previously stressed the importance of preserving the Alvarado as "not only the heart and focus of railroad Albuquerque, but also an indispensable architectural source for the unique sense of place which Albuquerque has inherited."

On October 1st the State Planning Office addressed a letter to the President of the Santa Fe Railway Company in which it expressed concern for the future of the Alvarado Hotel. The letter pointed out the importance of the building to the historical heritage of New Mexico. In his reply, G. W. Cox, Vice President of the Railway stated: "... that our engineers are firmly of the opinion that the building is too old to warrant remodelling or rehabilitation and while we plan to raze it, no time has been set for its demolition; neither have we decided what, if anything to do with the property after it has been cleared. We are open to suggestions, of course, and you may rest assured that future use of the property will be compatible with plans for redevelopment of downtown Albuquerque."

A detailed investigation of the hotel building by members of the Albuquerque Chapter, AIA, found the building to be structurally sound, although remodelling would be necessary to bring the building into conformance with present day fire codes.

From September through December members of independent and semi-official organizations including the Albuquerque Goals Committee, the Albuquerque Historical Society, the Albuquerque Chapter of the American Institute of Architects and the New Mexico Chapter of the American Institute

of Interior Designers, worked to find ways of obtaining and preserving the Alvarado.

But it was not until December 29, 1969—just four days before the scheduled closing of the hotel—that the City Commission appointed the Alvarado Preservation Committee to attempt to save the building.

The Santa Fe Railway released its sale price to the City Committee, the price of \$1.5 million was a staggering blow, especially when an informal estimate a year before had valued the property at about \$600,000. This outrageous asking price was countered with a plea for more time and a suggestion that the railroad donate the hotel to the city.

A deadlock ensued. No money was immediately available for purchase; the railroad company refused to donate it.

In a last ditch effort to persuade the company to delay actual demolition of the structure, the Alvarado Preservation Committee called a public meeting, for the evening of February 4, 1970.

But from a city-wide population of over 350,000 people only 200 persons attended. The emotion-charged meeting culminated in a 10 p.m. march in front of the now windowless building. Petitions were signed, signs were painted and a few hearty survivors appeared for picketing duty the following morning—but too few, too late—too much apathy.

The Alvarado Hotel is now several piles of available used building material in a local wrecking yard.

John P. Conron

¡El Alvarado Esta Muerto!

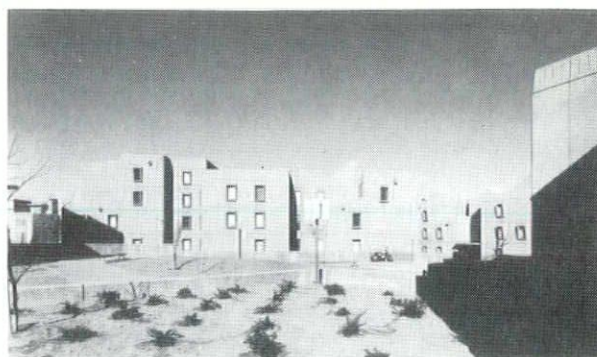
5) Photo: Gordon Ferguson



KEYSON HAS THE COATING

The precast concrete wall panels of this bold new building were coated with **Keykrete** Cementitious coating. Applied directly to pre-cast or poured-in-place concrete, **Keykrete** eliminates costly rubbing and finishing, gives color choice and appreciable savings.

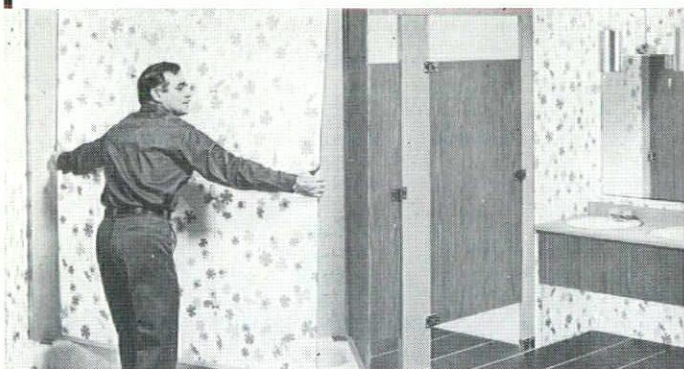
KEYSON APPLIED COATINGS, Inc.
502 General Patch, S. E., Phone 298-7597
ALBUQUERQUE, NEW MEXICO 87112



DORMITORIES & COMMONS BUILDING
UNIVERSITY OF NEW MEXICO
ARCHITECT—WM. W. ELLISON & ASSOC.
CONTRACTOR—LEMBKE CONST. CO., INC.



PANEL SYSTEM 202 AND TOILET COMPARTMENTS



FORMICA® brand Panel System 202 goes right over almost any structurally sound wall . . . no tearing down . . . goes up in a day or less! Perfect anywhere moisture is a problem. Formica Brand Laminated Plastic is the ideal surfacing material for toilet compartments and other restroom partitions, for the same reason it serves so handsomely on surfaces in other parts of a building.

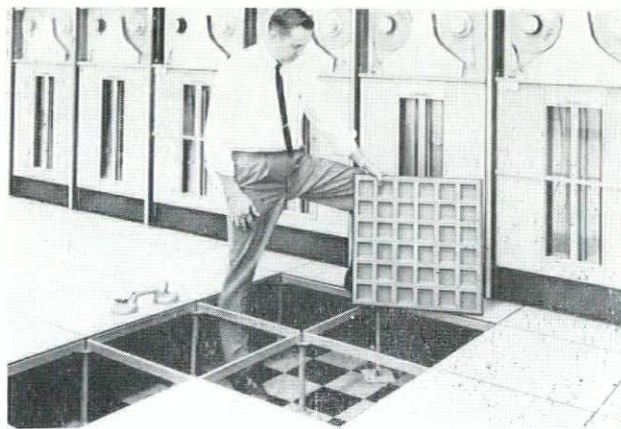
FORMICA DISTRIBUTOR



FORMICA REPRESENTATIVE
RICHARD P. KASSA
268-4589

THE INFINITE ACCESS FLOOR

The sensible answer to the problem of under-floor accessibility for cables—heating, cooling, conduit, piping, conveyors, etc.



The Tate Floor System, as installed by New Mexico Marble & Tile Co. offers the advantages of: The high strength of steel, interchangeable floor panels, fire resistance, low cost, lateral stability, permanent floor level, cut-out flexibility, dimensional stability, unaffected by temperature or humidity, owners choice of floor covering.

Ask us for details of this
revolutionary floor system.

**NEW MEXICO
MARBLE AND TILE CO.**
414 Second St., S. W. Albuquerque, N. M.
P. O. Box 834 • Phone 243-5541

Landes, Zachary & Peterson Co.

2137 Mills Ave.
El Paso, Texas
915-533-9060

4800 Pan American Hwy., N. E.
Albuquerque, New Mexico
505-345-2405

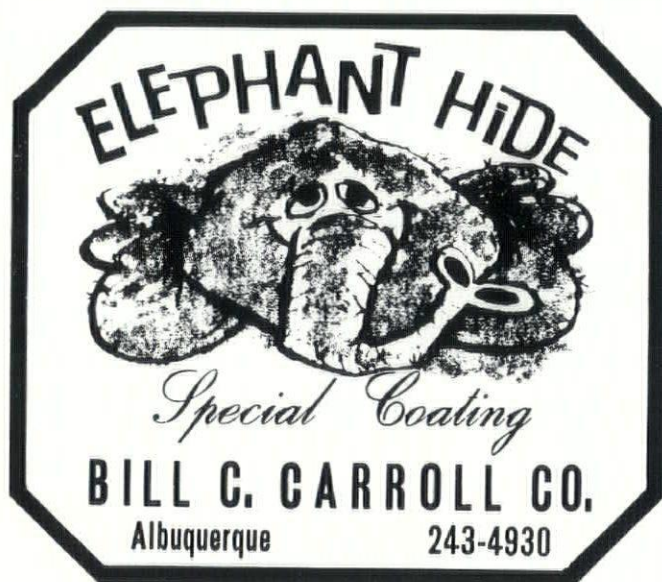
DISTRIBUTORS FOR:

UNISTRUT Metal Framing
TELESPAR TUBING

KEENE PENN METAL Movable Partitions
LOGAN Wire Partitions

Also Racks, Shelving & Other Architectural Products

— Please Call For Design Assistance —



MESKER

**HOLLOW METAL
DOORS & FRAMES**

NEW REPRESENTATIVE-
NEW MEXICO & ARIZONA

J. C. BALDRIDGE LUMBER CO.

Box 1396
Albuquerque

243-4546
87103

ALBUQUERQUE TESTING LABORATORY

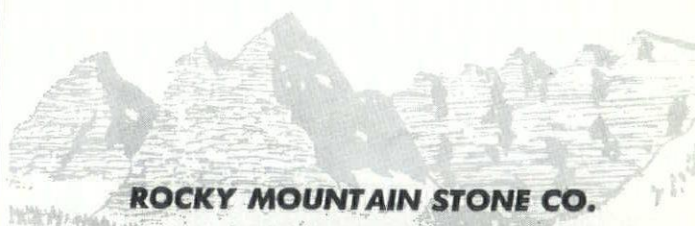
Sub-soil Investigations
For Structural and Dam Foundations

**Two Drills and Crews now
available for Prompt Service**

Laboratory Analysis and
Evaluation of Construction Materials

**All work done under the supervision
of Registered Professional Engineers**

532 Jefferson St. N.E. — P. O. Box 4101
Phone AL 5-8916 Albuquerque
Phone AL 5-1322 New Mexico



*Beautiful . Enduring . Inexpensive
Natural Building Stone
. . . . from the Land of Enchantment*

3219 CLAREMONT AVENUE N.E.
ALBUQUERQUE, NEW MEXICO

344-2611

AIA ROSTER --- 1970

ALBUQUERQUE CHAPTER

The following name was inadvertently omitted from the March/April Roster issue of NMA.

Associate Membership

Allen B. Cornwell
1220 Fruit Ave. N.W.
Albuquerque 87102

Bradley.

Your No. 1 source
for quality-made Washfountains,
group showers, single-control
faucets, and washroom
accessories.
For schools, industry, institutions,
commercial and public buildings.



BRADLEY WASHFOUNTAIN CO.
9108 Fountain Blvd. • Menomonee Falls, Wis. 53051

Ad No. 69-343

Represented by
BARNETT & COMPANY
1501 N. Third St., N. W.
Albuquerque, N. M.
Area 505: 247-2428

new mexico architecture

nma

Published bi-monthly, by the New Mexico Society of Architects
American Institute of Architects, a non-profit organization, Box 7415,
Albuquerque, N. M. 87104

Editorial Correspondence: All correspondence should be addressed to
John P. Conron, P. O. Box 935, Santa Fe, New Mexico 87501.

Editorial Policy: Opinions expressed in all signed articles are those
of the author and do not necessarily represent the official position
of the New Mexico Society of Architects, A.I.A.

No responsibility will be assumed by the editor or publishing organ-
ization for unsolicited contributions. Return postage should accom-
pany all unsolicited manuscripts.

Subscriptions: Write Circulation New Mexico Architecture, Box 7415,
Albuquerque, N. M. 87104. Single copy 50c. Yearly subscription \$2.50.

Change of address: Notifications should be sent to New Mexico
Architecture, Box 7415, Albuquerque, N. M. 87104 at least 45 days
prior to effective date. Please send both old and new addresses.

Advertising: Requests for rates and information relating to adver-
tising should be addressed to New Mexico Architecture, Box 7415, Albu-
querque, N. M. 87104. or Rob't. G. Mallory, 115 Amherst Dr. S. E.,
Albuquerque, N. M. 87106.

INDEX TO FIRMS cooperating in the public relation
program of the NMA magazine, making possible its publica-
tion and the page upon which their message may be found.

Albuquerque Gravel Products Company	7
Albuquerque Lumber Company	6
Albuquerque Testing Laboratory	21
Atlas Building Products Co.	4
Baldrige, J. C. Lumber Company	21
Barnett & Company	22
Builders' Block & Stone Co., Inc.	5
Carroll, Bill C. Co.	21
Concrete Systems, Inc.	6
Design Interiors, Inc.	23
El Rey Stucco Co.	23
Featherlite Tile Company	6
Frontier Roofing Co.	7
Hanley Paint Mfg. Co., Inc.	7
Hunter-Hayes Elevator Co.	5
Hydro Conduit Corp.	24
Keyson Applied Coatings, Inc.	20
Kinney Brick Co., Inc.	6
Landes, Zachary and Peterson Co.	21
Lumber Merchandisers Association	18
McGill, George B.	18
New Mexico Marble and Tile Co.	20
Prestressed Concrete Products Inc.	14
Public Service Company of New Mexico	14
Robinson Brick and Tile Company	4
Rocky Mountain Stone Co.	21
Southern Union Gas Co.	23
Southwest Vermiculite Co.	2
Stryco Sales, Inc.	20
University Book Store	2
Wellborn Home Decorating Center	7